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TWO CENTS.

sioners and Senate Committee.

of the District.

The District Commissioners met in conference this afternoon with Chairman Mc-Commissioners by Mr. Charles Moore, clerk of the Senate District committee:

"The matter of the height of buildings in the District of Columbia was brought before the committee at its meeting this morning (Friday), and it was decided to take up at once the matter of amending the present law so as to prevent the erection of buildings calculated to disfigure the Columbia at 2 o'clock on Monday next to discuss this matter with them; and in the the subcommittee would be pleased to have the Commissioners draft such amendments to the law as in their judgment will be calculated to attain the object sought."

It is understood that generally speaking

the Commissioners are in favor of the regu-lations as they stand at present. The Sen-ate committee is understood to have taken up the subject of further limiting the height of buildings in connection with a grand scheme for the heautification of the grand scheme for the beautification of the capital city in accordance with the report of the park commission recently printed. Proposed Construction.

One of the reasons that lead up to the immediate consideration of the matter, it is stated, is the reported proposed erection of a tall building on the triangular lot at the southwest corner of 17th street and Pennsylvania avenue, the site overlooking the State, War and Navy building, and the squares proposed to be condemned at some the future for additional departmental buildings. The plans for the pro-posed new building have not as yet been to the Commissioners for approval. It is stated that under the present law the building could not be greater than 110 feet in height, because Pennsylvania avenue at that point is only 140 feet wide. Senate committee recently wrote to the Commissioners inquiring as to this proposed building and were answered in line with the statement made above.

The Law in Force.

The present law on the subject of height of buildings is contained in Public Act 102, approved March 1, 1899. Prior to that date the law was in the shape of a regulation adopted by the District Commissioners. Section 4 of the act provides:

"That no building shall be erected or altered on any street in the District of Columbia to exceed in height above the sidewalk the width of the street in its and in no case shall a building exceed 90 feet in height on a residence street nor 110 feet on a business street, as designated by schedule approved by the Commissioners of the District of Coumbia, except on business streets and business avenues 160 feet wide, where a height not exceeding 130 feet may be allowed. The height of buildings on corner lots shall in all cases be regulated by the limitation governing on the broader street: Provided, spires, towers, and domes may be erected to a greater height than the limit herein prescribed, when approved by the Commissioners of the District of Colum-

Other sections of the act prescribe that no combustible or non-fireproof building intended to be used and occupied as a residence or as an apartment house or hotel shall be erected to a height of more than house or hotel five stories or raised to a height exceeding 60 feet from the sidewalk; that buildings intended for business purposes solely may be erected to a height of 75 feet without ng of fireproof construction and that buildings, except churches, hereafter erected or altered to exceed 75 feet in height shall be fireproof or non-combustible and of such materials throughout as may be prescribed by the District Commission-Churches must be of fireproof construction up to and including the main or

Was Carefully Drawn.

These regulations were drawn up, it is stated, after a careful inquiry into the question of height of buildings and a study of the regulations in effect in Amer-ican and European cities. The Commissioners believed that aside from the esthetic standpoint and the desire to bring about a conformity in the buildings of the city there must also be a practicable reason given for promulgating the regulations in order that they might hold in a legal proceeding. Thus that the element of practicability and public safety entered largely into the deductions drawn in considering the matter and finally settling upon the heights in-

chief of the fire department was called into consultation, and he asserted that it would be impossible for the Washington department to fight a fire above the height of ninety feet. The Commissioners thereupon fixed ninety feet as the maximum height for dwellings and apartment uses in the residence sections of the Dis-Upon this statement it was also provided that business buildings non-fireproof in construction should not exceed seventyfive feet in height. The owners of buildings taking advantage of the greater heights al-lowed on business streets have been comelled to provide for fire-proof construc-

Partly a Compromise.

The law on the subject as it stands at present is something of a compromise, too. When the regulations were under consideration considerable pressure was brought to bear on the Commissioners by those in favor of still further limiting the height of buildings and those in favor of placing no limit whatsoever on fire-proof construction. The Commissioners considered the regulations of Chicago and New York on the subject. It seems that in Chicago was a regulation limiting the height of ngs to 130 feet, but the commercial spirit of the city is such that when a pinch came the city authorities waived the reg-ulation and allowed the owners to con-struct buildings practically to their own esired height. It is stated that the same state of affairs exists in New York, where regulation prescribes 150 feet as the maximum, and where exceptions have been made to permit of the construction of a

"sky-scraper" 305 feet high.

A number of authorities on the subject of buildings and acquainted with the legal aspects of the situation doubt very much if a limitation of height, based purely on an esthetic foundation or consideration of of the disfigurement of the city, could be

Industrial Commission's Literature. A joint resolution introduced in the House by Mr. Otjen provides that the industrial sion shall turn over to the Library of Congress all its official minutes, and also all the volumes and pamphlets which it has collected from the various states and territories.

## BUILDING HEIGHTS BODIES IN MORGUE GALE AT NEW YORK before it. Strongly built houses were

Pittsburg.

CONSTRUCTION OF TALL STRUCTURES | CROWDS STRUGGLE TO SEE THEM | BOTH CREWS WERE SAVED

Measures to Prevent Disfiguration Mrs. Soffel is Getting Better in Wreckage Coming Indicates That Butler Hospital.

VIEWS OF THE AUTHORITIES PREPARING A DEFENSE SEVERAL VESSELS ASHORE

PITTSBURG, Pa., February 3.-The remains of Edward and John Biddle, the dead Millan and a subcommittee of the Senate bandits, arrived at the Pittsburg and Westcommittee on the District of Columbia in ern railroad station shortly after 8 o'clock the committee rooms at the Capitol at 2 this morning and were at once taken to the o'cleck for the purpose of discussing the Pittsburg morgue. In spite of the intense present law limiting the height of buildings | cold and the comparatively early hour of in the District and possible amendments to | their arrival hundreds of persons gathered the act. The conference was brought about in the waiting room by 7:30 o'clock, and by by the following letter forwarded to the the time the train arrived the crowd had in-

creased to a thousand or more. When the train drew in there was a rough scramble to get to the platform of the depot, during which several were bruised by being crushed against the side of the stairway. The remains were in rough boxes, in charge of Detectives Roach and Swinehart, who were accompanied by Dep-District. The subcommittee will be glad to uty Sheriff Hoon, Constable Aaron Thompmeet the Commissioners of the District of son and J. Holliday of Butler. The morgue wagon was waiting and the bodies were quickly driven to the morgue for identification. An immense crowd soon gathered, but a large detail of police prevented them from entering the building. The remains of the murderers will be turned over to their brother, Harry Biddle, who will see that they receive proper interment in the South Side cemetery. The funeral will be conducted as privately as possible and Rev. Father Sweeney, the priest who rendered spiritual advice to the Biddles while they were in the Pittsburg jail, will conduct the

Mrs. Soffel's Condition.

Dispatches from the Butler hospital this morning report Mrs. Soffel's condition as unchanged. While it is believed she will get well, the danger is not passed, and on account of this uncertainty in her condition nothing is being done in the way of preparations for her removal to Pittsburg. If she lives, in addition to answering to the charge of aiding prisoners to escape, she will be confronted by charges of furnishing the Biddles with firearms and aiding the felonious assault upon the fail guards and the officers who effected the capture in

Mrs. Soffel is already taking steps to defend herself, and has written to a prominent Pittsburg attorney to engage his servdo, and as her parents are relenting she hopes to receive aid from them.

The prison board is satisfied Mrs. Soffel had assistance within the prison walls, and before the Biddle incident is finally closed it is probable there will be an almost entirely new force of attaches at the jail. The county authorities do not believe Ed Biddle's dying statement implicating Jennie Seebers in the Kahney murder, and it is not

likely any action will be taken by them.

Biddles' Plan to Escape. Wearing the garb of nuns of the Roman Catholic Church, under the protecting wing of which the condemned murderers had found spiritual rest, the Biddles and Mrs. Soffel hoped to make their escape. It was Mrs. Soffel's plan, and the arrangement was that as soon as the trio had reached a place of temporary safety they were to don the black robes and vells as traveling Sisters of Mercy. They had planned to make for some remote mining place in Canada, where they were to live together.

Mrs. Soffel's dead lover had told her that he intended to give up his former nefarious trade and work in the mines with Jack This plan was made known to Dr. McCurdy Bricker at the Butler hospital by Mrs. Soffel, and was confirmed by Jack Biddle on Saturday.

It was not Jack's intention to always remain with his brother and his sweetheart. While Dr. Bricker was attending the dispirited woman at the hospital she confided to him this plan of escape. Jack Biddle told Dr. Bricker before h died that they were at a loss for some plan to disguise themselves when they ail. This problem was unsolvable to them for days. At last Mrs. Soffel hit upon this means for her lover and his brother. It was proposed to the condemned men only two weeks ago. That was the only link in their chain of flight that had not been forged by the men. Ed. Biddle told Mrs. Soffel he had many friends in Toledo, Ohio, and in Michigan. When once among them

The thought that though the result was death, she had assisted her lover to escape the scaffold, seemed to soothe Mrs. Soffel's mind and wounds today. She remarked to the attendants in the hospital that she had accomplished her purpose and was ready

they would secure some assurance of their future freedom. With Mrs. Soffel Ed. Bid-

dle planned their future as husband and

LEAVES OF CLERKS.

Statements Compiled in the War and

State Departments. A statement compiled by the War Department in regard to leaves of absence taken by its employes during the calendar year 1901 shows that the average aggregate leave taken by each employe during the year was 33,17 days, of which 25.90 was annual leave and 7.27 days' leave on account of sickness. It is stated that 1,152, or more than 66 per cent of the 1,728 employes of the War Department took less than 30 days' annual leave. Only 134 employes took the full 30 days' sick leave, and 675 employes took no sick leave; 8 took less than one day, 95 took one day, 81 took two days, 79 took three days, 73 took four days, 55 took five days, 66 took six days, 37 took seven days, 41 took 8 days, 41 took nine days, 27 took ten days, 20 took eleven days, 21 took twelve days, 27 took thirteen days, 26 took fourteen days and 21 took fifteen days; to summarize, 1,393, or more than 80 per cent of the 1,728 employes did not exceed 15 days sick leave during the year. A similar statement prepared at the De-partment of State shows that each of the eighty-nine employes of that department took an average total leave of 31 days during the calendar year 1901, made up an average of 23 days' annual leave and 8

FIRST PAYMENT BY CHINA.

ment on the Indemnity. A cablegram has been received at the State Department from United States Minister Conger at Pekin announcing that he has received the first payment from the Chinese government on account of the indemnity. He will hold the money to his order until the qualification of the trust company which is about to undertake to do an American banking business in China and the Philippines.

Claim of Mrs. Willett.

The House committee on claims today agreed to report a bill appropriating \$5,000 for the relief of Mrs. S. A. Willett, widow of J. P. Willett, former postmaster of Washington, and who was killed by falling down an elevator shaft in the post office building.

Conference Today Between Commis- Remains of Biddle Brothers Taken to Two Tugs Founder Trying to Aid Stranded Steamer.

There Have Been Disasters.

NEW YORK, February 3.-A strong gale from the west-northwest, which began early last evening, continued all through the night and this morning. The maximum velocity of the wind was sixty-five miles an hour, and at 9 a.m. today the local weather bureau instrument showed that it was blowing at the rate of fifty-six miles an hour. All the nearby marine stations reported the sea rough, and from different points along the coast there came news of wrecks and of vessels ashore. The tugs John E. Berwind and E. S. Atwood. which were sent to the stranded steamer Cavour at Long Beach yesterday, were unable to return to port and both sank about eleven miles east of the Sandy Hook lightship. The crews were rescued by the German steamer Barcelona. The tugs left the Cavour about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and within an hour both were in a sinking condition. The seas broke over the craft and washed away everything movable, the water gradually filling the holds until it was above the floor of the fire room and began to put out the fires. The Berwind's pilot house was smashed, and the water flooded her fire room.

Rescued by the Barcelona.

About 5:30 o'clock the Bareclona was seen approaching and the tugs steered toward her to ask assistance. She stopped and made a good lee, so that the tugs were able to run alongside. A rope ladder was lowered and the men from the tugs scrambled on board. Fourteen men, all told, were saved, seven from each tug. Fifteen minutes after the rescue the Atwood went lown and some time later the Berwind disappeared.

Fire Island reported a ship ashore at Point Lookout and a barge in distress near the Forge River life-saving station. The barge was anchored about two miles off shore, and was rolling badly. Those on shore could not tell whether there was any one on board the barge. The name of the ship could not be seen from the Point Lookout station.

Atlantic City reported that an unknown four-masted schooner went ashore during he night on the Brigantine Shoals, near where the Claverdale grounded yesterday.

Fire Island reported that the beach five miles east of the Bellport life saving station was covered with wreckage and it was believed that a coal barge had been

Steamship Cavour Still Aground.

The steamship Cavour, which stranded several days ago off Long Beach, L. I. weathered the gale well, and with the kedge and lines which she has out held her position well. No effort will be made to pull her off until the weather has set-tled.

PHILADELPHIA, February 3.-Only one serious disaster to shipping had been reported to the maritime exchange from the life saving stations between the Delaware Breakwater and Barnegat up to 10 o'clock this morning. This was the grounding on Brigantine Shoals, near Atlantic City, of an unknown four-masted schooner which went aground during the night near the big steamship Claverdale.

Barnegat reports that an unknown five-masted schooler, with all its sails torn

away except the jib, passed that station this morning bound north.

The wind at the Delaware Breakwater which reached a velocity of nearly fifty miles an hour last night, had fallen to thirty-three miles an hour at 9 o'clock to-

day. No damage has been reported to the shipping at the Breakwater. Two Wrecks Reported.

LONDON, February 8.-The first officer of the French ship Chanaral was landed at Falmouth today. He is the sole survivor of the crew of twenty-two men of the vessel, which was capsized off Ushant.

The bark wrecked off the Sicilly Islands last evening, and which was supposed to be a German vessel, turns out to have been the Italian bark Lofaro. The bark Lofaro was built in 1876 and

was owned by F. Lofaro, of Naples. She was of 663 tons net register. The Chanaral was owned by A. D. Borde and Son of Dunkirk, France. She was built at Greenock in 1875, and was of 1,388 tons net register. The ship was 239 feet 4 inches long, had 38 feet 3 inches beam, and was 21 feet 4 inches deep. Ushant is the most westerly of the is lands off the coast of Brittany, France.

Schooner Edith Allen Ashore. ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., February 3.-The schooner which went ashore on Brigantine Shoal is the Edith L. Allen, from Brunswick, Ga., for New York, lumber laden.

There is no change in the position of the British steamship Claverdale, which stranded on Brigantine Shoal in a dense fog yesterday morning. A high wind prevails the wrecking tugs have not been able to render assistance to the distressed vessel It is probable it will be necessary to re-move her cargo before she can be floated. The Claverdale was bound from China and apan for New York, with a cargo valued at \$2,500,000, consisting of 4,000 tons of tea nd 3,000 tons of general cargo. The crew of twenty-five men remains aboard. The stranded ship is visible from the boardwalk here, and thousands of visitors are viewing unusual spectacle of a great steel steamship lying almost out of the water. The Claverdale is almost a new vessel having been built at Stockton, England, in 1899. She halls from London, and is owned by F. Hazlehurst & Co. She is built of steel, and is a modern cargo carrier, registering 3,300 gross tons. Her length is 330 feet, beam 43 feet, draught 24 feet.

STORM RAGING INLAND, TOO.

New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey All Visited. MALONE, N. Y., February 3.-No storm in recent years in northern New York has reached such serious proportions as the one now prevailing. It commenced at noon on Sunday and in less than eight hours three feet of snow had fallen. For the last ten hours the wind has been blowing a gale. The New York Central train from Utica is five hours late and similar con-

NEWARK, N. Y., February 3.-The worst storm of the season is raging in Wayne county. It began at 9 o'clock yesterday morning. The temperature was four de gress above zero at 8 o'clock this morn Trains on the New York Central, t Shore and Pennsylvania roads are delayed and all country roads are blocked. BALLSTON, N. Y., February 3.-Alternate rain and snow yesterday were followed during the night by the severest gale that has blown here in many years. The highest velocity of the wind was sixty miles an hour and many telegraph, telephone and electric light wires went down

ditions exist on the Rutland railroad.

EBENSBURG, Pa., February 3.—The most severe snow storm that has visited the mountains in recent years has been raging here for the past two days. Business of the past two days. raging here for the past two days. Business is almost suspended during its continuance. All trains on the Ebensburg branch of the Cambria and Clearfield divisions are snowed up. The regular passenger train is stuck in a drift east of Vintondale and traffic has been suspended. Rifts ten feet high in many places block country roads.

PHILADELPHIA, February 3.—But little snow has fallen in this section of the state during the last twenty-four hours, but the high wind has done considerable damage to telegraph and telephone wires. Reports from the coal regions state that the cold is intense, in many places the mercury having fallen thirty degrees in twelve hours. twelve hours.

UTICA, N. Y., February 3.—A fearful blizzard prevails in central and northern New York. The railroads are tied up and there is no prospect of the north and south lines getting open for several days. On the Central a few passenger trains are being pushed through from four to eight hours late. Freight trains are abandoned The telephone system here has been great y disarranged.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

CUMBERLAND, Md., February 3.—A blizzard prevails in this section, being esblizzard prevails in this section, being especially severe at Frostburg, where streets are almost impassable from snowdrifts, and where some people are shut up in their houses by snow five and six feet high piled against their doors. Many country roads are impassable and the delivery of rural mails is stopped. It is with great diffi-culty that the roads are kept open.

CORRY, Pa., February 3.-The worst blizzard for many years has raged in this region for the past twenty-four hours. It has caused great damage to the railroads and to telegraph and telephone wires. The Pittsburg express from Buffalo, hauled by three engines, arrived here eight

Getting Cold at Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, February 3.-The furious storm that prevailed throughout this section yesterday was followed by a sharp drop in temperature. The government thermometer at the local weather bureau registered zero early today, while on the streets many instruments indicated three or four degrees below zero. Traffic on the trunk lines east of Cleveland is badly impeded owing to the unusually heavy fall of snow. Trains on the Lake Shore reported from the east were from five to seven hours late this morning. The delay, how-ever, was said to be all east of Buffalo. On the eastern end of the Erie road passenger trains are running from two to three hours late, while many freight trains are entirely tied up by huge snowdrifts. The storm proved most disastrous on the line between Meadville and Salamanca, where immense snowdrifts, from seven to ten feet in depth formed on the tracks.

CHARGED WITH SWINDLING

James B. Agnew of New York Under Arrest in Chicago.

CHICAGO, February 3.- James B. Agnew. who claims relationship to a well-known Philadelphia family of that name, is under arrest here charged with swindling several hundred physicians in Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin out of small raudulently obtained cash subscriptions to Chicago medical publication. Agnew came to Chicago from New York.

SUICIDE'S IDENTITY DISCOVERED. Mrs. Hammond Moore Killed Herself in 'Frisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 8 .- The identity of a middle-aged, richly-dressed woman who committed suicide in Stockton on Friday night has been established by friends in this city. She was Mrs. Hammond Moore of New York city, the widow of Col. Hammond Moore, an officer of the confederate army, who settled in New York shortly after the civil war. She came to San Francisco from Guatemala last May in the course of a tour around the world which she began three years ago, and which ad just been concluded.

The cause of her suicide is unknown

GOING TO THE PHILIPPINES.

Secretary Root Hopes to Visit the Islands Next Summer.

In case it can be arranged Secretary Root will visit the Philippine Islands during the coming summer for the purpose of making a personal inspection of existing conditions. He had intended to go with Adjutant General Corbin and other bureau officers last year, but was prevented by ill-health and the press of business. He would like to accompany Civil Governor Taft back to Manila in May next, but feels that it would be inadvisable to absent himself from the United States during the session of Congress, especially during the consideration of important measures affecting the gov-ernment of the Philippines and the military service, as well as the measures relating to the affairs of Cuba. Unless something foreseen prevents the Secretary will start for the Philippines soon after the adjournment of Congress, and arrangements are now being made with a view to his departure in August at the latest. It is predicted that the Secretary will be able to straighten out the tangles in the government of the Phil ippines arising from the divided responsi bilities between the civil and military authorities.

PROPERTY USED BY GOVERNMENT. Reports Made on Each Claim by an

Army Board, Congress at its last session provided that the Secretary of War should investigate and report on claims of citizens residing within the limits of the United States for private property used or taken by the United States during the Spanish-American war. A board of officers was appointed to consider all such claims received at the War Department. The board made a report on each claim and these reports have been transmitted to Congress as required by law. These reports are printed in House Documents 502, Fifty-sixth Congress, second session, and 151, Fifty-seventh Congress, first

House bill 3641, Fifty-seventh Congress, proposes to appropriate the sum of \$55,-775.21 to pay the claims for property taken and used by the government. Many inquiries are daily received at the War Department from cialmants as well as from senators and representatives as to the status of these claims. The statement is officially made at the department that nothing can be done in the matter until Congress makes the necessary appropriation.

INDIANA LEAVES CURACAO.

Movements of Other Vessels Reported to the Navy Department. In consequence of the more peaceful condition of affairs in Venezuela, the Navy Department has withdrawn the battle ship Indiana from Curacao, Dutch Guinea, where she was held in readiness to proceed

to La Guaira, the port of Caracas, in case of emergency. The vessel has been ordered

to join the North Atlantic squadron at Culebra, near Porto Rico. The Navy Department has received a ablegram from Rear Admiral Higginson, commanding the North Atlantic squadron, announcing the departure yesterday from San Juan, Porto Rico, of the Kearsarge, Alabama and Massachusetts, bound for Guantanamo, Cuba. It has also been informed of the departure of the gunboat Machias from New York for Norfolk, en route south to join the North Atlantic squadron.

President Getting at Facts in the Mr. Babcock's Narrow Defeat in Gov. Taft Continues His Description Schley Case.

Another Conference on the Cuban · Sugar Tariff.

OTHERS OF TODAY'S CALLERS

President Roosevelt has begun consideration of the appeal of Admiral Schley. He is going at it, too, in a most thorough and systematic manner-in a way fighting over again the naval battle of Santiago. With the President for a long time today were four of the commanders of vessels in that memorable conflict between the navy of Spain and the United States. These men were Rear Admiral Evans, who commanded the battle ship lowa; Rear Admiral Taylor, in command of the Indiana; Captain Clark of the famous Oregon, and Commander Wainwright, who handled the Gloucester.

These men arrived at noon and after that the President denied himself to all callers, the only other person received being Secretary Hay, who had a matter to be disposed of. It is exceedingly rare that the President becomes so deeply engaged in any matter as to deny himself to callers for the remainder of a day, and this goes to show the importance he attaches to this case. Constant interruption would prevent his getting a continuous and firm grasp of the fact he is seeking. It was a rather interesting coincidence that two Maryland representatives, Messrs. Wachter and Schirm, were among the visitors who were asked to call again. On finding that it was consideration of the Schley case that prevented their being received they expressed gratification. They were accompanied by James T. Bradford, colored, of Baltimore. will later present Mr. Bradford to the President as a suitable candidate for an auditorship.

The four naval captains were with the President in his office until after 1:30 o'clock and then went down to lunch with the chief executive, continuing to discuss the Schley case until they left the White House several hours later. The President is securing from these men every available fact in connection with the case. It is regarded as certain that he will have inter-views with other naval captains and officers who were at Santiago before he will reach any conclusion as to the appeal of Admiral Schley.

Conferring About Cuba.

Another important conference at the White House was held early in the morning. Representatives Payne and Grosvenor of the ways and means committee of the sums of money. He is charged with having House, the former chairman of the comident about a tariff on Cuban sugar. They found the President unchanged in his at titude that something must be done for Cuba by a reduction of duty on sugar. Representative Grosvenor had with him a leather case full of facts and figures. It is regarded as practically certain that the House will ultimately make a concession in favor of Cuba, but the question now much will the reduction be? The House republican leaders will do this, if at all, against their judgments and largely to avoid a conflict with the President.

The White House Force.

Representative 'Hemenway of the appropriations committee of the House had a talk with the President and Secretary Cortelyou this morning about appropriations for the executive force of the White House for the next fiscal year. The White House has made a request of the appropriations committee for three additions to the clerical force, and it will probably be granted. There are a number of detailed clerks in the White House force, and when exceptionally good men are found it is frequently desired to add them to the permanent rolls. The appropriations for the White House under various headings will probably be

increased the coming fiscal year. Discrimination Against Union Labor. James O'Connell, president of the International Association of Machinists, and E. C. Barry, from Rock Island. Ill., saw the President and furnished him with affidavits to prove the charges made some time ago that union machinists are discriminated against at the Rock Island arsenal. When the charges of discrimination were made some time ago the President said that if they could be substantiated he would issue an order that would put a stop to discrimi nation at Rock Island or anywhere else. It is claimed that the affidavits presented day substantiate the charges, and Mr. O'Connell expects the President to take some action when he has had time to consider the affladavits. The President has informed his labor callers that a man has a right to joint labor unions if he is so dis-

The Case of Judge Noyes. Senator Kearns of Utah again called to the President's mind today the nomination

of a judge for the Cape Nome, Alaska, district, to succeed Judge Noyes, who will not be returned to that district. Senator Kearns wants a Utah constituent selected for the Nome district, and has put before the President the name of A. B. Hayes of Ogden. The President has made no selection. It was some time ago officially an-nounced that Judge Noyes will not be sent back to Nome, his usefulness there having been destroyed. The Department of Justice is now considering the matter of retaining or dismissing Judge Noyes from the federal service, and Attorney General Knox is proceeding slowly and with deliberation. A number of lumber dealers from Kansas, Missouri and Okahoma were received by the President. They are in the city on an excursion.

Senator McLaurin of South Carolina had a talk with the President about some of-fices in his state. Senators Nelson and Mitchell and Representatives Curtis were among the callers.

Will Kill His Successors. "Yes, the President will kill all of his successors," said ex-Senator Chandler, who

called on the chief executive. The former senator explained this statement by saying that he had found that the President's calling list was no smaller than it had been at the beginning of the administration, when there had been an unparalleled rush The pace set by the President was such that his successors would undoubtedly feel the effects if they tried to equal it.

A MINT AT TACOMA

ing Precious Metals From Alaska. The House committee on coinage has acted favorably on the bill appropriating \$200,000 for establishing a branch mint at Tacoma, Wash. The general purpose of this new branch is to give added mint facilities for the gold and silver coming from Alaska. Although votes were not taken on bills for other branch mints the prospects are that the establishment of the one at Tacoma will operate against the esta ment of other branches in that section of

AT THE WHITE HOUSE MARGIN OF ONE VOTE COMMISSION'S WORK

Ways and Means Committee.

TALKS WITH FOUR NAVAL OFFICERS OFFERED BILL TO CUT DUTIES ON STEEL | HEARING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Mr. Steele Moved 25 Per Cent He Declares That a Purely Native Concession to Cuba.

MOTION LATER WITHDRAWN RELIES ON EDUCATION

There were lively times in the ways and means committee this morning and the high protectionists of the republican majority had all kinds of trouble on their hands. The protectionists won out as usual, however, and successfully resisted all attacks. The trouble began with Mr. Babcock, who with blood in his eye had been awaiting an opportunity to establish a record on his bill reducing the excessive duties on certain iron and steel manufactures. Some time ago there was a vote in the committee on this bill, upon motion of Mr. Richardson (dem.), and the report had been circulated by republicans that Mr. Babcock had voted

Mr. Babcock's Motion.

against his own bill.

So this morning Mr. Babcock moved to report his bill to the House with a favorable recommendation and demanded a roll call upon the vote. The motion created consternation among the high protectionists, which was increased when Mr. Tawney of Minnesota, republican, and Mr. Babcock voted "aye" on the motion to favorably re-port the bill.

The roll call developed six ayes and seven noes, and by this narrow majority the motion was defeated.

Chairman Payne was visibly agitated and in a voice which trembled with emotion threatened Mr. Babcock that the committee would "go up into Wisconsin and take the duty off lumber. This threat failed to appall Mr. Babcock, however, to any appreciable degree, the report says.

by offering a motion to amend the war tax reduction bill by reducing the tariff on Cuban sugar 25 per cent. This suggestion caused a cold shiver to run through the lit-

To Reduce Cuban Tariff.

Then Mr. Steele of Indiana, republican,

gave a shock to his high-tariff colleagues

tie group of high protectionists near the head of the table, for it was known that Mr. Hopkins and Mr. McCall, republicans, had a leaning toward Cuban concessions, and it was feared that one or two others were weakening. So Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio interceded with Mr. Steele to withdraw his motion. The plea was so urgent that Mr. Steele consent-ed, and this burning question was not

The war tax reduction bill was then the House without further outbreaks from the insurgents. The ways and means committeemen are

very much concerned over the certainty of their war tax reduction bill meeting with opposition in the Senate. Several se have come out in interviews against the excessive reductions, Senator Hanna being particularly vehement in objection to such a cut.

Tax Reduction Bill Reported. The ways and means committee of the House by unanimous vote today ordered a favorable report on the war tax reduc-

The closeness of the vote on Mr. Babcock's amendment reducing the steel schedule caused much comment. Messrs. Newlands and Cooper, democrats, and Long and Hopkins, republicans, were absent. It was explained on behalf of the absent members that they were either out of the city or detained at important committee meetings elsewhere, and that the Babcock mowas entirely unexpected.

Representative Robertson of Louisiana who is opposed to a reduction to Cuban sugar, was among those who voted for the Babcock amendment. Following this, Mr. Steele made his motion, and a sharp but good-natured parley occurred between Mr. Steele and Mr. Robertson. The latter suggested that if any motion on sugar was to be made, Mr. Steele should broaden his proposition so as to include raw and refined sugars, placing them all on the free

DECLINES THE APPOINTMENT. Capt. Gardner Was Chosen Aid to James H. Wilson.

Capt. A. T. Gardner of Boston has declined the appointment of aid to Gen. James H. Wilson, U. S. A., retired, at the coronation of King Edward VII. Captain Gardner is a son-in-law of Senator Lodge and was formerly a member of the Massachusetts state senate. He served on the staff of General Wilson during the Spanish war.

MINISTER WU CRITICISED.

President Gompers Before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Minister Wu Ting Fang was severely criticised this morning before the House committee on foreign affairs by President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor.

Mr: Gompers was addressing the committee in behalf of the Chinese exclusion bill now being considered. Turning his attention to Minister Wu,

he remarked, hotly: "I resent the sneering remark of a foreign diplomat that I am an agitator, or a labor agitator, or that the aboring people of this country who are endeavoring to protect themselves from Chimese labor are agitators.
"I deny the right of a representative of a foreign government addressing himself to an official of our government and re-ferring to American citizens by name in

such a matter as this, and particularly when such reference is of a derogatory character.
"The Chinese minister is treated in this country with every becoming courtesy, and he has no right to make insinuations upon American citizens. Upon behalf of the laboring men of this country whom I rep-

marks on the part of the Chinese minister.' War Department Changes. Changes have been made at the War Department as follows: Appointments by certification of the civil

service commission-Office of the chief of

resent as the president of the Federation of Labor I repeat that I resent these re-

engineers-Isaac T. Kinsell of Pennsylvania, clerk at \$900. Pay department—Par-nell S. Jefferson of Texas, messenger at Promotion-Office of the surgeon generalfames G. Shibley of Kansas, from clerk at

\$1,000 to clerk at \$1,200. Resignations—Office of the adjutant general—Ferderic L. Davis of Illinois, clerk at \$1,000. Office of the surgeon general—Harry O. Weaver of Ohio, clerk at \$1,200.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 8.-Mme. Lillian Nordica is confined to her room at the Palace Hotel with an attack of ner-Director Roberts was present, and stated that one branch in the northwest would be sufficient for all government needs.

Dr. James W. Ward, who is in attendance, says that the attack is not serious. It is a result of the singer's recent experience in a railroad wreek.

The Star is the business

man's paper, because it gives

him the latest news,-the news

of today, not yesterday. Hence, to reach him, advertise in The

of Philippine Conditions.

Government Would Fail.

Governor Taft today continued his statement before the Senate committee on the Philippines regarding the conditions existing in those islands.

Answering a question by Mr. Lodge, he described the condition of the Island of Samar, where the people are still in insurrection, and said he was not prepared to state that this island was never wholly sub-

jected to Spanish rule. He then described the qualifications requisite for an elector in the different towns where the commission had established governments. These were that such person shall speak and write English or speak and write Spanish, or have filled a municipal office under Spanish rule, or that he shall

pay \$15 gold taxes a year. Work of the Commission.

Governor Taft then entered upon a general narrative of the work of the commission. When the commission arrived at Manila they found the people divided into three classes, those in favor of the exclusion of American sovereignty altogether, the Spanish party in favor of this government, and a large body of ignorant people who were entirely indifferent.

Governor Taft said that the instructions to the commission, which gradually placed more power in the civil government, had had a marvelous effect when the commission of the c had a marvelous effect upon the people. The insurrection, he said, had been most active in September preceding the elections in this country, with the view of influencing them, and for this reason it had been difficult to bring the Filipinos to a discussion of legislation which the commission were enacting. There was doubt as to what the policy of the United States would be. "The subordinate military officers," he continued "were a little bit contemptuous of what we were doing, because it seemed to play so unimportant part in the situation, but when the power over the purse strings began to tighten in the matter of appropriations those gentlemen who were spending the island's funds began to appreciate that there was some power behind the commission."

Gov. Taft said it will be found, on investigation, that the surrenders by the in-

surgents of arms and men were far in excess of the actual captures by the military. The municipal code was not put in-to operation, he said, until after the presidential election in the United States, because of the unsettled condition of affairs, but as soon as it became known to the people that the commission had thought it wise to provide for the election of gover-nors, which occur next month, the Fili-

pinos flocked to them with expressions Theory of the Commission

He said that the theory of the commis sion in their formation of civil government is that the indispensable aid to the ultimate success of popular government is the extension of education, but that the effect of this could not be felt for a generation until the children had grown to manhood. There were, he said, 10,000 adults engaged in the study of English. "In the meanin the study of English. "In the mean-time," said he, "the reliance of the commission is on the small educated portion of the community, who form a nucleus about which, with the aid of American control, we think a stable government can be

A Native Government Would Fail. He could assert without healtation, he said, that lacking American initiative and American knowledge of how to carry on a government any government there must be a complete failure.

In explanation of the obstacles to the complete tranquillity of the islands, with the exception of Samar, Batangas and Laguna, he said that the lack of quarters for the troops, which was the cause of their being brought into close contact with the people, was the principal one, and he urged that such quarters be provided. Gov. Taft declared that the chief aim of the commission was the good of the Fillpino people, and that they had constantly

believing they will be given the best gov-ernment possible and be secure in the enjoyment of their rights. He sought to ove the susceptibility of the Filipinos to kindness by the results achieved by the commission. It was not hard, he said, to explain the attitude of the Filipinos toward the army, because they could not be ex-pected to love the instrument by which punishment is inflicted upon them. Gov. Taft discussed at some length the different parties which had been formed in

endeavored to gain their confidence. In this they had been successful, the people

said, was the one which represented peace The committee adjourned until tomorrow at 10:30, at which time Gov. Taft will con-

the Philippines, but the federal party, he

tinue his statement. SAILING OF THE THOMAS.

Departure of the Army Transport for the Philippines. The War Department is advised of the sailing of the transport Thomas from San Prancisco from the Philippines, with the following passengers: Col. Burt, 25th Infantry; Major Owen and Captain Demoy, medical department; Major Paulding, 3d Infantry; Lieuts. Shaffer, 13th; McFeely, 10th Buchan and Evans, 9th; Plummer and Orchard, 3d; Renziehausen and Jacobs, 5th Cavalry; Screws and Baker, 19th Infantry; Fechheimer, 11th; Deems, Artillery Corps; Caldwell, Hutchinson, Finlayson, Hasson, Barlow, Moxley and Clairmont, Philippine scouts. Four contract surgeons, ten hos-pital and three Signal Corps men. Recruits unassigned: Infantry, 1,115; cavalry, 307; Coast Artillery, 30; Field Artillery, 5. Twenty casuals and twenty-three recruits assigned as follows: Infantry, 12th, 1; 16th, 1; 24th, 1; 25th, 4; 25 1; 24th, 1; 25th, 4; 26th, 1; Cavalry, 9th 12; 10th, 2; 36th Company Coast Artillery, 1

Personal Mention

Capt. Stehman Forney of the coast and geodetic survey is in the city to consult with the superintendent of his department. Capt. Forney has been with the coast survey for thirty-seven years, and has served that department on numerous important missions. He will return to his station on the Chesapeake bay in a few days, when is making resurveys of the Nanticoke and Wicomico rivers.

and Wicomico rivers.

Assistant Secretary Sanger of the War
Department has been summoned to New
York city by the serious illness, of his
wife's mother.

Mr. Kirby Thomas of West Superior,
Wis., owner and editor of the Telegram of
that place, is visiting Washington as the
guest of Representative Jenkins of that
state.

guest state. Naval Promotions Announced. Commander William A. Windsor, Lieut

Commander William E. Sewell and Lieut. (junior grade) Henry T. Baker have been promoted to the next higher grade